ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for facilitating formation and maintenance of multi-user linked groups. In one aspect, a shared software application is automatically launched on two linked computers in response to formation of the linked multi-user group. In another

5   embodiment, a linked multi-user group is initiated by a user submitting a request to form the group to another user. In a further embodiment, additional users can be dynamically added to an established linked multi-user group. In another embodiment, the list of participants in a linked multi-user group is distributed among all of the users in the group. In another embodiment, a multi-user linking interface provides a common

10   interface for at least two linked applications.